

VZCZCXRO2055
OO RUEHMA RUEHPA
DE RUEHUJA #1317 1721452
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 211452Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY ABUJA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9974
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 0389
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ 0390
RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 7206
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS ABUJA 001317

SIPDIS

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DEPT FOR DRL, AF/W
PLEASE PASS USTR FOR AGAMA
DOL FOR SUDHA DALEY
DOE FOR CAROLYN GAY
DOC FOR 3317/ITA/OA/KBURRESS
TREASURY FOR DAN PETERS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [ELAB](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [ENRG](#) [ASEC](#) [NI](#)

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: NATIONAL LABOR STRIKE - SITREP #3

REF: A. ABUJA 1303

- [1](#)B. ABUJA 1302
- [1](#)C. ABUJA 1294
- [1](#)D. ABUJA 1278
- [1](#)E. ABUJA 1155

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[1](#)1. (SBU) The national labor strike continues June 21 and it appears Nigeria is headed for a third day of striking. The meeting between labor leaders and the GON which was scheduled for 10 AM June 21 did not/not take place. According to NLC Deputy General Secretary Olaitan Oyerinde, it was clear following the informal NLC/GON meeting on the evening of June 20 that neither side was willing to budge from their declared position. The strike held in general, though the labor leaders were unable to shut down oil production and exports as they had hoped and airports were open for international and some domestic flights. Some businesses around Abuja reopened by mid-day on June 21. The strike continued to be peaceful and NLC reports only one arrest.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Despite labor leaders' desire to shut down oil production and exports in an attempt to force the GON to the negotiating table, it appears they were unsuccessful. Shell reports that office workers have heeded the strike, but that essential personnel remain in place and both field and offshore operations continue as normal. Agip reports "no problems" as employees in essential positions have not heeded the call to strike. Chevron reports that essential personnel have complied with the strike, though it has not indicated to what extent operations have been affected.

[1](#)3. (SBU) No further meetings are scheduled at this time between the GON and labor. Poloff learned that TUC President Peter Esele returned to Lagos on June 21. According to NLC's Oyerinde, the strike will continue indefinitely until labor's demands are met. Oyerinde told Poloff the strike had to be

held to send a message to the new administration. He said labor he believes labor would accept a compromise gas price of 67.5 Naira per liter. (NOTE: He did not/not mention the pricing board approval as a necessary part of the compromise.)
CAMPBELL